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GRATIS

Undergraduate Association Elections Issue

Malcolm M. Jones '57 **UAP** Statement

Who or what is the U.A.P.? Literally, he is the President of the Undergraduate Association. But what is the Undergraduate Association? It's you-the undergraduate members of the M.I.T. community, and your president is your chief spokesman and representative to the administration, the faculty, the various student activithes and organizations, and the general public as well.

In such a prominent position, you indeed want a reliable, responsible and respected student. The president should have an intimate knoweldge of the complete workings of student government. He should also be familiar with the organization and structure of the administration and faculty to the extent that he can effectively work with these groups for the benefit

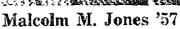
of the students whom he represents. Above all, your President must be a student that commands and receives the respect of both the student groups with which he has to work and the administration. There is indeed a great need for improvement along this line, especially with regard to the student groups. No matter how good Four president is, he must have the cooperation of the groups with which he has to work. This includes not only the Institute Committee, but the Activities Council, the Dormitory Council, the I.F.C., the Commuter Association, the Association of Women Students, and all the other Class A and Class B organizations with which he must harmoniously work.

Knowing the members of these organizations and having a knowledge of their functions is an important step towards attaining a better collaboration with these groups. To attain these two requisites takes time, and most important of all, the actual working experience gained through membership in these groups. No executive can make competent decisions regarding an activity if he does not even know what this

activity is supposed to do, or is actually doing. Of course, it is obvious that within the scope of a brief college career no student, no matter how active he is, can have obtained membership in all of M.I.T.'s many undergraduate activities. However, I feel that I have had an adequate sampling of the various activities and student government positions that undergraduate students may participate in. As a member of the (Continued on page 5)

Candidates For UAP







B. J. Long '59

Inscomm Officer Elections Important To Success Of Student Self-Government

by Robert B. Hillman '59

In many ways M.I.T. differs from most American colleges. Not the least of these differences is the remarkable form of student government that presides over many of the affairs of the undergraduate body.

One can search a long time before finding a campus on which students have such great freedom and shoulder such great responsibility in the regulation of college affairs.

The philosophy of the Institute administration is simple. They have faith in the ability of the student to manage successfully his own affairs.

The Undergraduate Association budget of well over fifty thousand dollars is administered solely by the student Finance Committee. The judicial system is almost entirely student run; and there has been a trend recently toward giving the undergraduates a hand in working out the academic policies of the Institute. Several groups have been working in close cooperation with the faculty along this line.

The heart of student government is contained in Institute Committee. For the last two years (Continued on page 5)

B. J. Long '59

UAP Statement

The thought of having a Freshman as President of the Undergraduate Association has created quite a stir of indignation throughout the Institute. Being that Freshman I would like to clear up any misconceptions. I am a veteran, 25 years old, and have had experience in other legislative groups besides having served one term on Institute Committee. Although I am at present President of the Freshman Class, I am not trying merely to gain publicity for myself in this election, but I am seriously persuing this office and am confident of my ability to handle this position as it should be.

Are you wondering, as I am, why the slate of candidates is so small? The only reason I can find for the small number of candidates is that the position of Undergradu-

ate Association President is too time consuming. This brings me to the reason why I am running. I believe the efficiency of this office can be increased greatly and with it the efficiency of the whole structure of student government without curtailing the operation of either. This position can be made less time consuming by greater diversification of the duties and responsibilities connected with it, thus making it a more sought after position in the future.

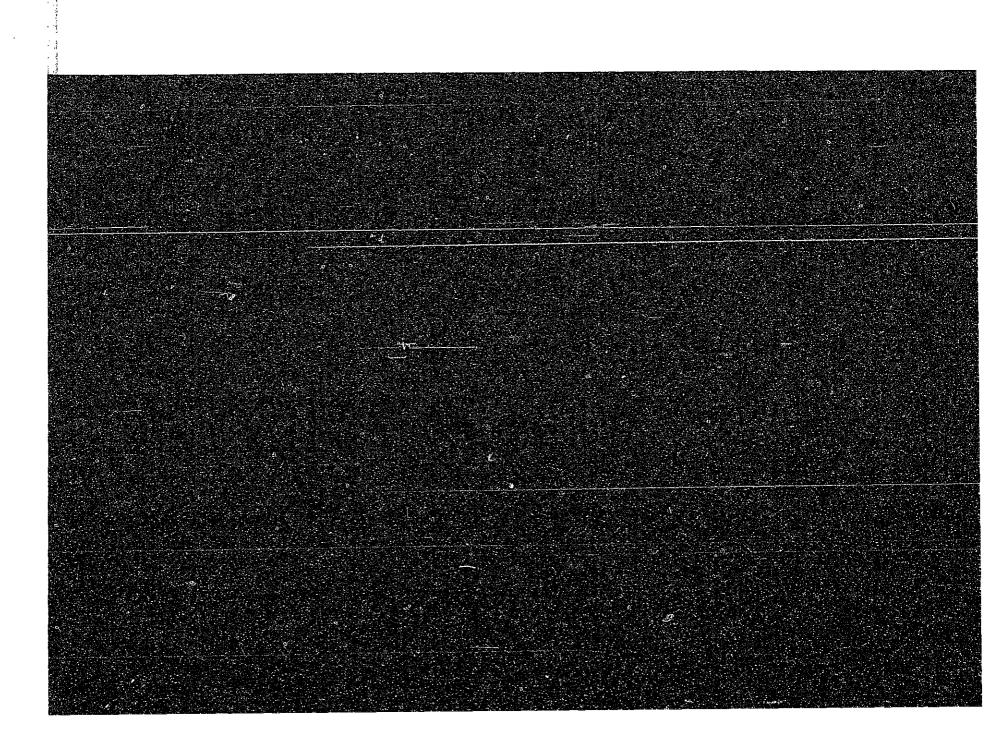
There is a definite need at M.I.T. to inform the student body of the construction, purpose and aims of student government, and to arouse greater interest in its activities. This can be accomplished by better communication between student government and student body. Two means of communication could be the indoctrination of a newsletter or conferences held between a member of Institute Committee and different living groups. A pamphlet should be written and distributed to all incoming students describing the construction, purpose, and aims of student

More work needs to be done on the integration of commuters into life at M.I.T. Work has already been started but there is much left to

government.

The drawings of the Student Union Building look very pretty lying about the Institute Committee office, but there seems to be no further progress being made. If elected I propose to pursue the realization of this project to the fullest extent. The rule governing profit making

(Continued on page 5)



EDITORIALS

The UAP ...

The success or failure of Institute Committee is almost wholly dependent upon one man—the UAP. He has the key role in planning the agenda, he has the even more vital position in controlling debate. He can focus attention on important issues, relegate mechanical matters to their proper place. The right man can accomplish something in the limited time available, the wrong man can exhaust the available time on trivia, bog down proceedings in unnecessary debate, render InsComm useless.

The leader of the undergraduate body, the UAP is in the best position to present *our* veiws to the administration, to argue for what we want. To be an effective lobbyist, he must know the Institute and the undergraduates, he must have the courage of his convictions, the strength to adhere to them, the ability to present them. He must also have the understanding and imagination to compromise when necessary.

As an administrator, he must be aware of the procedural limitations of InsComm and prepare to take steps to correct them. He must have an understanding of the various activities to be able to reform the unwieldy and often unfair system of representation. He must be creative enough to plan special events like the Discrimination Conference.

The position of Undergraduate Association President is a big one in name. It is even bigger in responsibility, in authority and in time. The necessary qualities of a UAP are difficult to determine from an activities record, a cumulative rating and a brief statement. You have the responsibility of making that difficult decision.

... The UAVP

Let's face it—the job of Vice President doesn't require too much. A Vice President with little understanding of the position, interest in the job or ability can fulfill the written obligations of the position. In return for an impressive title, he can give little effort and almost no service to the undergraduate body.

But a Vice President who does more than go through the motions can be of incalculable benefit. As a member of Executive Committee, he is in the best position to initiate policy. Interest and a keen mind can go a long way toward the solution of many of the much-debated and little acted upon problems—Senior Rings and the Commuter Center are two of the most conspicuous. A capable administrator can make the Vice President's role of Coordinator of Sub-committees into a creative force. Not required to represent a particular faction, he can, if acquainted with the Institute, present a sound over-all position on any issue.

Interested, able and experienced, a Vice President can take some of the burden from the shoulders of the UAP, act as contact man between Institute Committee, the undergraduate body and the administration, carry out special projects, help to revise procedure.

The UAVP election can decide seriously who will best fill what could be and should be one of the most valuable, one of the most influential positions at the Institute—or it can be a popularity contest.

If you're voting only for the best hand-shaker—do yourself a favor and leave that part of the ballot blank.

The



Tech

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Tuesday, February 21, 1956

No.

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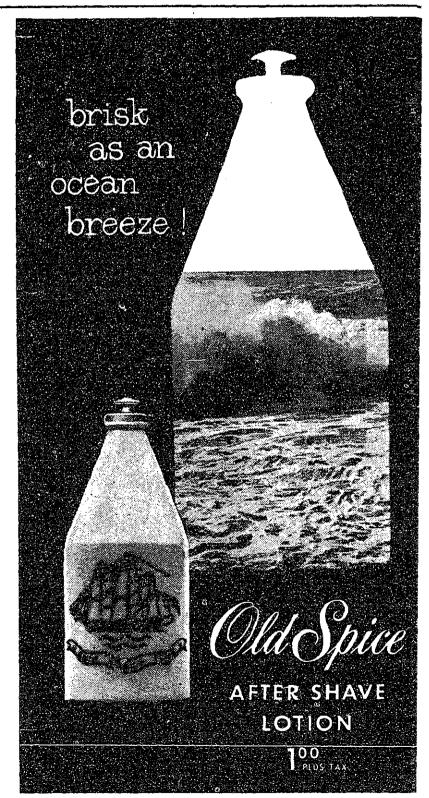
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Candidates For Undergraduate Association Vice-President



om Thomas '57

UAVP Statement

on Tuesday the election for the Undergraduate esident and Vice President will be held. If this ection follows the pattern of its predecessors five o'clock less than one third of the student ity will have expressed its voice. Some will not to this as a mark of student apathy. In 't agree with this point of view for I believe at lack of knowledge and not of interest is the in reason for our shortcomings at the polls. In the poll of the

Looking at it in this vein the candidates themves are much more at fault for the lack of erest at the polls than the students. In genl a candidate for an office takes a nomination ition, collects the required number of signaes, puts up a few posters and then stops. Well might ask what more have I done. From the rt of the campaign I have devoted my time going around meeting people individually. en this has been impossible I have tried to et your hall chairman or some members of r fraternity house and express my ideas to m so that you might know what I will try to for you. I believe that personal contact is e effective than the printed word and I hope t through such contact you will become intered in what I wish to accomplish in particular,

the working of InsComm in general. I ally believe that if most of the students were a speaking acquaintance with two members insComm they would become more interested ts activities.

concerning general indifference it would seem the cellular life we live at Tech, because of studies, is at fault. By a cellular life I mean darrangement by which most of us don't know many of our classmates outside of our part he dorm or the fraternity house. I believe it InsComm can foster classwide social and hetic activities carefully planned to foster one mixing among the various living units.

In addition to these ideas there are other imextant matters for InsComm action.

1) The issue of the Senior Ring Committee ould be settled once and for all. I do not feel at Inscomm's yearly legislation of morals for ecommittee after the damage is done is either ry effective or proper. There are two courses action open. First to draw up rules of conduct rathe committee more in the line of practical

(Continued on page 5)



Fitz Rawls '57

UAVP Statement

The position of the Vice President requires plenty of experience on the Institute Committee, plus a working knowledge of the other components of the Undergraduate Association—the activities. This experience is necessary if the Vice President is to give sound advice and leadership to InsComm, and aid the President by handling special duties and committees that may be formed.

During the past year my position as Secretary of the Institute Committee and member of the Executive Committee has enabled me to work with Dick Peskin, the present Vice President, and learn the duties of the office. The experience gained while on the Executive Committee and while Chairman of the Secretariat makes me well qualified to perform the duties of Vice President.

Certain situations present within the Undergraduate Association deserve discussion in order to inform the voters of my views:

- 1. Undergraduate Association Financing—At present the U. A. must prepare a very detailed prospective budget once a year. Then the Finance Board must literally beg the administration for every penny, explain each small item in the budget, and finally take what it can get. A new plan, which I am supporting, is to receive the money on a direct amount-per-student-enrolled basis. This will allow the U. A. to set up its budget without administration control, to make long range plans, and to provide for truly independent student government.
- 2. The Athletic Association—The A.A., which is larger in its degree of student participation and in its budget than all other activities combined, is relatively low in the organization of the U. A. This was made noticeable when InsComm acted on some problems in which the A.A.'s opinion was needed, but was not available. I would like to give the A.A. representation on InsComm equal to that given to the other activities through Activities Council.
- 3. Intramural Sports—The high cost of refereing fees has caused students to miss out on some of the better sports. I am in favor of an appropriation to cover a portion of the larger fees and thus increase participation in the Intramural Program.

These three issues are not the only ones con-

(Continued on page 5)



Donald Aucamp '57

UAVP Statement

Believe it or not, my opinions on present day issues do not necessarily form the most important element in this election day discussion. Students are tired of hearing the campaign promises of all politicians. They have no way of knowing whether or not political promises will be carried out, or even whether or not the candidates will greatly strive to put forth their election day platforms. I shall not, therefore, bore you with campaign "lies", but I shall show you the true value of an excellent Undergraduate Association Vice President.

The Vice President is a liaison officer between the Institute Committee and the students on the one hand, and on the other hand between the Institute Committee and the administration. He must, therefore, not only possess knowledge of the Institute, but must also be able to work with people in an effective, efficient manner. I cannot emphasize enough the absolute importance of this liaison function. The Vice President's initial beliefs are almost negligible in significance as compared to his ability to seek out the problems of the Institute community, to logically present them in both Executive and InsComm meetings, to contribute a worthy part of the ensuing discussion, and to strive then for the adoption of the best possible solution.

I really shouldn't be perfectly honest with you if I were to say I shall push through legislation all of my present viewpoints on controversial issues. We all know that certain opinions on certain subjects sometimes change in the light of intelligent discussion. The most important thing is not what the incoming Vice President initially believes, but rather how he intends to seek out all those opinions and problems of the Institute community, how broadmindedly he presents and discusses them, and finally how capably he acts on the whole proceedings.

I firmly believe that both disclosure and broad discussion of issues are necessary essentials to the democratic process. Obviously, a communications system must be found which will enable our government to reach out and touch each and every hand. Perhaps a few of the following suggestions may better the present situation. Affected parties should be called in and encouraged to voice their opinions in InsComm debates on the issues at hand; boxes could be placed around the campus to receive suggestions and complaints from the students; more important,

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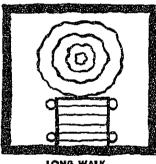
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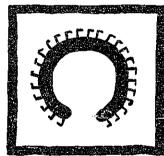
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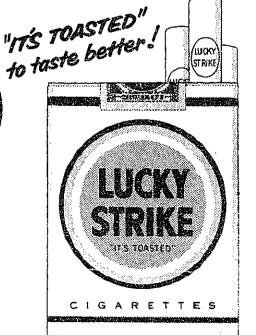
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UCAMP STATEMENT

(Continued from page 3)
he Vice President may sit in on campus disussions and visit the various living groups (at
inner time, of course) once or twice a week
to that he is always in personal contact with the
M.I.T. student... so that he knows their probems. He must bring forth these problems to
executive Committee and InsComm, he must
did to the ensuing discussion through the help
of his own creative mind, and he must endeavor

o initiate the most logical legislation.

I can offer you no more than a creative mind inxious to seek out these problems. I want to ind the answers to these questions through the see of a somewhat different approach—not one of dogmatically sticking to my initial position without truly hearing all the sides of the question—but one of carefully looking into the probem from all its sides. I want to show the committee that the voice from the outside is worth learing. This is the Vice President's job. If you lect me, I shall make it my job.

RAWLS STATEMENT

(Continued from page 3)
ronting student government, but they are cerainly among the most important right now. I
elieve they are the most important because they
rill improve our organization and enable us to
etter perform the prime function of the Underraduate Association, service to the student

The man who can perform the duties of the vice President must be willing to take responsibility and be confident that he knows what he is doing. I really want this position and conscientionally promise to do a good job if elected.

INSCOMM

(Continued from page 1)

the chairman of this group, the UAP, has been elected by the entire undergraduate body.

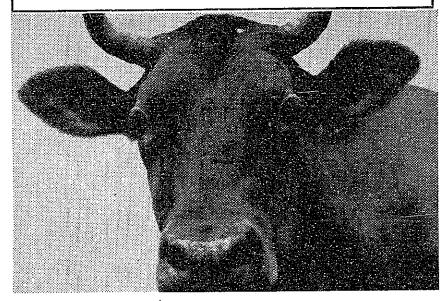
At present, the Institute Committee consists of twenty-one members, representing primarily the various living groups and classes at the Institute.

The success of student government at M.I.T. is testimony that the administration is justified in its philosophy of faith. It is further evident that government has been successful because strong and capable men have been elected to office—given the privilege and responsibility of running this organization. As long as the undergraduate body continues to put capable men in office, the administration will continue to delegate power and responsibility to student government. This is the key fact in today's election for Undergraduate Association President and Vice President.

Many new challenges face student government in the coming year—Dormitory Council may take part in planning a new undergraduate dormitory, for example. The proposed commuter center in Walker Memorial will necessitate experienced and capable men in student government's top posts to consider and administrate planning. The proposed Student Union Building will once again be up for the consideration of the Institute Committee.

In all capacities, qualified, interested, ambitious, capable men are needed to fill the key positions. The election today will be of primary importance in choosing these leaders.

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The boys were having a bull session in Sheedy's room. "It's no yoke," beefed Sheedy. "Heifer-y girl I ask for a date turns me down flat." Then Sheedy's roommate spoke up: "There's good moos tonight J. Paul. Try some of my Wildron Cram-Oil on those cowlicks"

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LONG STATEMENT

(Continued from page 1)

by activities at M.I.T. should be revised so that the activities would be willing to turn over excess profits to the student union fund.

There are a great number of issues to be considered such as commons meals, code of ethics, evaluation of Undergraduate instruction and cumulative rating system, and a system whereby more students attend Institute Committee meetings.

I am proud of the student autonomy at M.I.T. and propose to retain its current level or possibly increase it. I urge all the members of the Undergraduate to vote in this election to preserve this status and to elect the best representative of the undergraduate body.

JONES STATEMENT

(Continued from page 1)

I.F.C. Executive Committee I am intimately acquainted with the problems of the Fraternities. This term I am a commuter and I'm becoming acquainted with the commuter's problems, especially parking. Membership on the Ryer Committee has supplied me with intimate experiences and information as to what dormitory living is like, and what problems, such as commons meals, the dormitory students face.

As for student government, I've continuously been a member of InsComm since the beginning of my Freshman year. In this capacity I've served on numerous special committees and several prominent sub-committees such as the Freshman Coordinating Committee and the Student Union Committee. Besides this, I've actively participated in musical groups, religious groups, honorary societies, and also worked as a member of a student staff.

I ask for your vote so that You may capitalize on this experience.

THOMAS STATEMENT

(Continued from page 3)

suggestions than a code of ring ethics and then place our trust in the ability of the students we elect or, secondly have the ring companies submit their rings unaccompanied by salesmen and have the selection of the ring made without the selectors having knowledge of which company submitted which ring. I personally believe that on the whole this year's Senior Ring Committee did a good job and that although some improvements are necessary I do not think that it is required to treat the Ring Committee like infants and bar them from all correspondence with the various companies.

2) To my mind the undergarduate aspiration should be independent of financial control by the administration. Tech fosters the idea of independence among the students and in student government. However, this ideal is hardly realized when many plans of InsComm and other school activities depend upon financial consent of the school. I am not asking for unlimited funds, but rather for complete control over the funds set aside for us. I believe such action would add greatly to the initiative of undergraduate activities.

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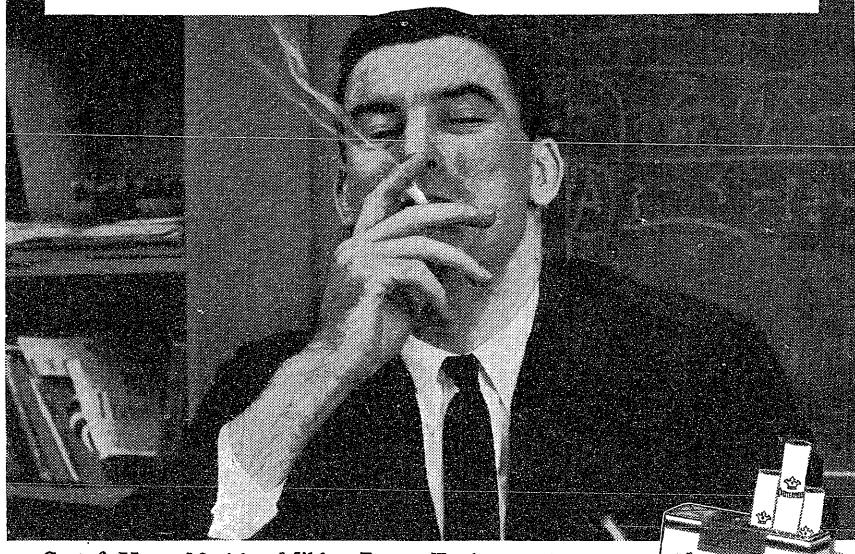
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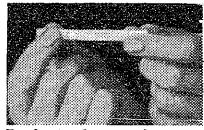
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